

## DECORATING THE EASTER TABLE

New and Attractive Trifles For Its Adornment—Bunnies, Flowers and Eggs Used as a Basis For Designs.

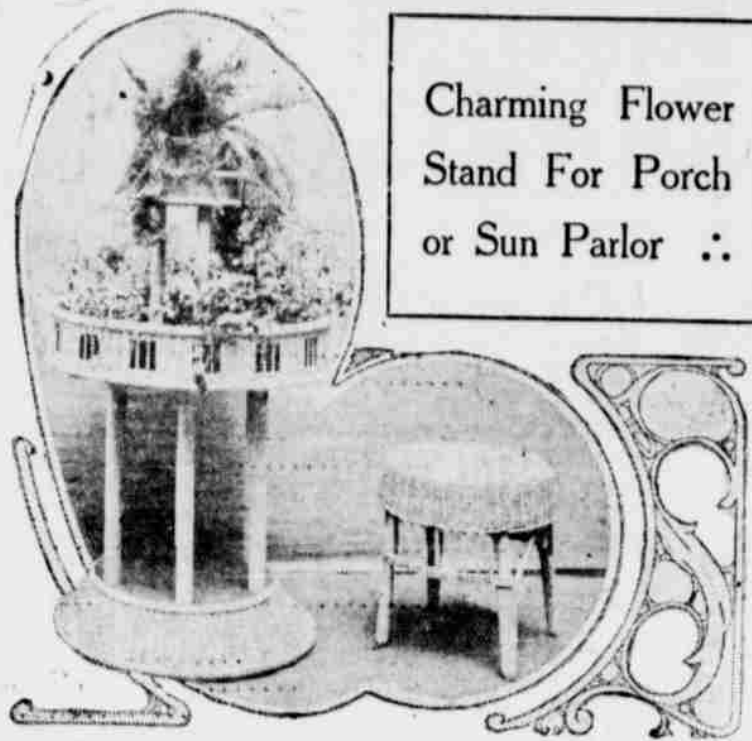
**F**LOWERS have always been a favorite garniture of the Easter table, as well as one of the most acceptable of Easter gifts, and a floral centerpiece of spring flowers, daffodils or tulips is most appropriate. Easter lilies are not at all suited to table decoration, as their perfume is too heavy to be pleasant to most people at such close quarters.

Eggs, of course, play a large part in the decorations this year, as they do every season, for the egg is one of the oldest of Easter symbols. Eggs are shown in all sizes and are made of almost every conceivable material, from sugar candy to paper, wood or satin. One of the most attractive novelties, however, is the large floral egg, made to hang from the chandelier or electric lamp over the center of the dining table.

This egg is also called the "Easter rose egg," as it is covered with rose petals, but has a gay posy of spring blossoms caught by the ribbons at the top. It is made to open when the ribbons that hang from it are pulled at the conclusion of the dinner, and on the end of each ribbon is an Easter souvenir for the guest. This egg is not made of real flowers or covered with natural rose petals, as they would be much too fragile for the purpose. The petals used are of tissue paper, while the bunch of flowers tied in with the ribbons that hold the egg at the top are usually artificial, though paper flowers can be employed for the purpose or a bunch of natural blossoms can be tied in just before the dinner is served. These Easter roses come in lovely shades of pink, pale yellow, white or the beautiful reddish-pink of an American Beauty rose.

Ice cups or bonbon holders in the form of tulips are another pretty decoration for the Easter table. They come in white, red, yellow or pink—in fact, in all the gay tulip colors—and stand erect on their stems at each place. Then there are pretty candle shades decorated with comical wee chickens in mob caps or tall hats, according to whether a lady or gentleman chicken is represented. And, of course, there are rabbits galore to carry out the old German superstition that the rabbit lays the Easter eggs.

## FLOWER STANDS OF WICKER EASTER GIFTS FOR PLANT LOVERS



Charming Flower Stand For Porch or Sun Parlor .:

**W**HEN it comes to the selection of Easter gifts there is nothing that quite takes the place of flowers. One of the charming forms in which they may be presented is suggested by the flower stand illustrated here. It is carried out in basket work and has a tier of shelves in which the various plants may be arranged. The stand will form a handsome addition to the furnishings of the sun parlor or summer porch. It will be a much prized Easter token for maid or matron. If it is possible to do so the stand may be sent decked with cut flowers or furnished with potted plants.

A dainty trifle that will be sure to please any woman in search of pretty novelties to make her dinner or luncheon party slightly different from her neighbors is the sweet pea place card. This consists of a bunch of three sweet peas, two buds with a widely opened flower between them, and in the center of the middle sweet pea is a dear little girl's head, a real doll's head. Some of these sweet pea bunches have beautiful blond babies staring curiously up at you, while others have just as attractive brunettes. The place card itself is attached to the stem of the sweet peas by a tiny ribbon bow.

With very little trouble charming little place cards may be made of cardboard cut oval and dotted here and there with pussy willow bunnies. These furry buds will make very realistic gray bunnies with the finishing touches added of ears, bit of tail and paws. Cut the ears from gray paper and fasten in place with tiny pins. The loveliest gray thread doubled and

waxed will make good forepaws to peep out as bunny sits on his haunches, in his favorite attitude. Attach a bit of cotton for the tail and with the finest wire run through for whiskers and tiny black beads for eyes you have complete little bunnies. Arrange in any position on the cards, gluing fast with a drop of mucilage; then scratch in lightly with a green crayon pencil some short blades of grass, giving darker touches for bunny's shadow with a little black.

A very attractive idea has been evolved for the after Easter festivities, the dances and dinners that usually take place in Easter week and in the early part of April, and this is the flower hat for the women guests. These flower hats also form most adorable cotton favors and are distractingly becoming to a pretty woman.

All kinds of flowers are represented in these dainty chapaux, but prettiest of all are the rose hats. These can be made in any shade of the natural

## SOUVENIRS FOR EASTER

Most of the Humorous Ones and Those Intended For Children Are Imported From Germany and Japan.

**N**EARLY all of the Easter novelties—toys and their containers, such as baskets and boxes—used in the United States are imported from Japan or from Germany. Confections, of course, are excepted.

The only noteworthy exceptions to this rule are a few clever things imported from England. The first is a pretty eggcup with an egg sitting in it, just as it would be in serving a boiled egg. When the top of the egg is hit in the approved manner with the knife a saucy little chick pokes its head up through the broken shell too realistically for words to describe.

It is in a real eggshell, and that the shell does not contain a real egg is not likely to be discovered unless the person to whom it is served attempts to remove it from the cup before opening it, and then the fact that the egg is glued in the cup would doubtless arouse suspicion.

Another importation from England is a miniature Teddy bear, which is given an Easter air by associating it with

flower, but are most charming in pink. The sweet pea is another flower, but this makes a quality delightful head covering not unlike a peasant cap, but no illustration can convey an idea of the beautiful shading of colors in its three large petals.

### A Popular Fish.

The American flounder when filleted is a convenient and inexpensive dish. It is free of all bone and skin and the flesh is delicate and fine. Floured and fried to a golden brown it is excellent with tomato sauce.

The flounder lends itself to every method of cooking that is given for sole. Hollandaise is a simple and appetizing way of preparing fillets. Put them in a stewpan, say six small ones, and cover with salted water, adding a little vinegar. Cook for five or six minutes, then drain them and place on a dish. Pour melted butter over them with the juice of half a lemon, garnish with parsley and serve with three potatoes cut in small bits.

many things typical of the season. The bear remains as a souvenir after its Easter decorations have been put aside. Importers can throw no light on the real reason for introducing the Teddy bear as an Easter emblem.

Germany sends most of the toys that have a humorous element in their composition; consequently a bunny doing the "bunny hug" dance in a party dress hails from the land of the "made in" labels. The waddle of this bunny is so similar to the motion the dance produces that its mechanical actions cause a smile.

Most of the new papier mache things are imported from Germany, and this brings out the fact that a new, very superior light papier mache has been put on the market, very durable and remarkably light in weight. This makes ideal toys for delicate baby



PLASTER EASTER BUNNY.

finger to handle, and the composition is so clear in color that no paint is required to give the toys the appearance of white animals.

The kooky wack duck that waddles and gabbles, the velvet duck and chicken on wheels that squawk, the plush duck that squawks when its chest is pressed, the tin duck that "swims" over the floor on wheels and the ducks and chickens that bob their heads up and down as if pecking at corn are a few of the imported things. There is a duck that squawks naturally when its tail is pressed downward, and one that walks, squawks and moves its head from side to side simultaneously.

Japan sends nearly all of the cotton trunks and none among them is superior to the flying stick, which is suspended on a slender spiral spring wire, for as the stick swings through the air its wings imitate a correct flying movement, and in some instances it bill opens and shuts. Flying geese and pigeons are also made on the same plan. A zander, with a neck that

strains from side to side savagely in the regular attitude of attack and hence sedulously inspecting nests filled with eggs are also from Japan.

And so one might go on indefinitely. However, the source of these novelties is a matter of little importance to the small folks, who look now for Easter toys and souvenirs quite as confidently as for Christmas gifts.

Favorites this season are the big lanterns, some of which are manufactured in very realistic style. The larger the rabbit the better it is liked. The plaster one shown here makes a fine Easter substitute for the Teddy bear.

### How to Dry Wet Shoes.

Wet shoes are the rule during spring weather, and many good shoes are spoiled in the effort to dry them too rapidly.

Instead of putting them near a hot fire, place them where it is moderately warm, but first stuff them with newspapers.

The newspapers absorb the moisture on the inside, which is the part of the shoes most difficult and slowest to dry, and a gentle heat dries them on the outside without drying or cracking the leather.

### Escaloped Eggs.

Four hard boiled eggs, two cups cold boiled ham chopped fine, a cupful cream sauce, two cupsful bread crumbs and two tablespoonsful milk. Brush a casserole dish with bacon drippings or butter, cover the bottom with one-third of the bread crumbs, cut two eggs into rounds and place on the crumbs, cover with half the ham and half the cream sauce, then half of the remainder of bread crumbs, two eggs cut into rounds, the rest of the cream sauce, then the rest of the bread crumbs, which have been moistened with the milk put over the top. Bake in moderate oven twenty minutes.

### MILADY'S ORNAMENTS.

Baroque pearls ornamented with jeweled wreaths make charming hatpins.

Large beads of mother-of-pearl are among the prettiest in the market.

Pendants are to be used to weight the corners of collars or the ends of neckties.

One of the prettiest necklaces is the velvet collar with its pendant or buckles. Short strings of heavy beads are also liked.

The imitation Chinese prayer beads are one of the delightful trinkets just now. To be correct they should be of real number, with a jade bead at each end and a finish of tassels.

### HINTS FOR THE NEEDLE-WOMAN.

A child's cap may be fastened with an elastic band covered with a casing of lawn edged with a narrow lace.

The little yoke dresses are so popular for a baby as ever. The use of banding for the seams, especially for the armholes, adds much to the appearance, as does also dainty featherstitching.

When you draw threads of hemstitching run dry soap on the material first and the threads can be drawn more easily.

When making buttonholes in a silk waist to prevent fraying lay a piece of mending tissue in the hem that the holes are cut in and press. It will form a substantial body to work on.

To put sleeves in correctly put the underarm seam of the sleeve just the length of your second finger ahead of the underarm of the waist. This is an easy way, and they are always in the right place.

Cover a strip of wood with the embroidered linen and sew five or six brass hooks through the center. Attach a ribbon, pushed at either end with a flat bow, with which this hanger is hung to the wall wardrobe.

### BLOOMERS HAVE COME IN.

They Take the Place of Petticoats Under Many Narrow Skirts.

It does really seem that the substitution of the bloomer for the petticoat has been definitely adopted by a large number of women. With the excessively narrow skirts even one petticoat seems more or less in the way, and the long bloomers of the softest crepe de chine, muslin or flannel satin or even more diaphanous ones of chiffon, have achieved a decided popularity.

Many of the most extreme models reach to the ankles and have a suggestion of the skirt which is seductively appealing to many modestly loving women of the occasion. White is the most generally liked, but there are charmingly delicate tints in blue and pink which show off to great advantage under the color gown which harmonizes well with them.

When these bloomers were first introduced they were hard to obtain. Few shops sold them. They were afraid of them and did not wish to have any superfluous supply on hand. Now, however, that they have become much more common the difficulty of getting them has been removed, and there is every reason to believe that with the coming of summer their general use will be an accepted fact.

## SPRING OPENING



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Never have we had such a showing of

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